Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A method, implemented in a data processing system, for interactively viewing enterprise metadata, comprising:

providing a data structure that is stored in a memory in the form of a directed graph, with nodes of the directed graph representing asset metadata for enterprise data assets and directed edges of the directed graph between nodes representing relationships between the asset metadata, wherein a single directed edge from a first node of the directed graph to a second node of the directed graph indicates that the first node belongs to the second node, and wherein a pair of directed edges in both directions between the first node and the second node indicates a mapping between the first node and the second node;

displaying, on a display, ~~generating~~ at least one path within the directed graph, the at least one path generated using a path finder tool, wherein the at least one path satisfies prescribed constraints defined in a query; and

generating a report about the directed graph, wherein the report ~~is based on paths generated by said path finder,~~ is displayed on the display and consists of asset metadata that correspond to the nodes traversed in the at least one path generated by the path finder tool.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is an impact analysis report describing an impact, on the asset metadata, of at least one prescribed modification to a portion of the asset metadata.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is an impact analysis report describing an impact, on the enterprise data assets, of at least one prescribed modification to a portion of the asset metadata.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is a data quality report describing steps to verify compliance of asset data with at least one prescribed business rule.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond with prescribed asset metadata.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata are equivalent to prescribed asset metadata, and wherein corresponding data is represented the same way.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata are equivalent to prescribed asset metadata, and wherein corresponding data is represented in an equivalent way.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata are logically dependent on prescribed asset metadata.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets upon which prescribed asset metadata are logically dependent.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond with prescribed asset metadata, and wherein the displayed asset metadata have a more specific context relative to the prescribed asset metadata.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond with prescribed asset metadata, and wherein the displayed asset metadata have a more general context relative to the prescribed asset metadata.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata comprise data corresponding with prescribed asset metadata.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond to data comprised within prescribed asset metadata.

63. (Original) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing statistics about the asset metadata.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63 wherein the statistical summary report includes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on at least one descriptor.

65. (Original) The method of claim 64 wherein the statistical summary report includes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on owner.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 64 wherein the statistical summary report includes a distribution of [[a]] <u>the</u> enterprise data assets based on a quality level.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49 further comprising identifying redundancies among the enterprise data assets that correspond to nodes that are included within the at least one path.

68. (Original) The method of claim 67 wherein the report is a plan for eliminating redundancies among the enterprise data assets.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with specific metadata for a specific enterprise data asset designated as a base for comparison.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69 wherein the comparison report indicates indicated metadata for the at least one enterprise data asset that corresponds with the specific metadata for the specific enterprise data asset, wherein the indicated metadata have a more general context relative to the specific metadata.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69 wherein the comparison report indicates indicated metadata for the at least one enterprise data asset that corresponds with specific metadata for the specific enterprise data asset, wherein the indicated metadata have a more specific context relative to the specific metadata.

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49 further comprising generating program code instructions corresponding to [[a]] generating the report.

73. (Original) The method of claim 72 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as SQL script.

74. (Original) The method of claim 72 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as XSLT script.

75. (Original) The method of claim 72 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as Java code.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

77. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49 further comprising generating a request to apply at least one modification to the [[graph]] at least one path.

78. (Original) The method of claim 77 further comprising enforcing at least one approval process for the request.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49 wherein the directed graph includes nodes for an ontology model, into which the asset metadata are mapped.

80. (Original) The method of claim 79 wherein the ontology model is a generic industry model.

81. (Original) The method of claim 79 wherein the ontology model is an enterprise specific model.

82. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 79 wherein the directed edges connect pairs of nodes that correspond to metadata that is mapped to one another.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing a percentage of enterprise data assets for which the asset metadata are mapped to the ontology model.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing a percentage of enterprise data assets for which the asset metadata are completely mapped to the ontology model.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing a percentage of enterprise data assets for which the asset metadata are partially mapped to the ontology model.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with ontological metadata for the ontology model.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86 wherein the comparison report indicates indicated metadata for the at least one enterprise data asset that corresponds with the ontological metadata for the ontology model, wherein the indicated metadata have a more general context relative to the ontological metadata.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86 wherein the comparison report indicates indicated metadata for the at least one enterprise data asset that corresponds with the ontological metadata for the ontology model, wherein the indicated metadata have a more specific context relative to the ontological metadata.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising restricting a user's access to the asset metadata based on a user privilege.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising restricting a user's access to the asset metadata based on a requested action.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising restricting a user's access to the asset metadata based on a subject area of the asset metadata.

92. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising displaying different parts of the asset metadata to different types of users.

93. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising displaying different parts of the asset metadata to technical and non-technical users.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising displaying the asset metadata in different formats to different types of users.

95. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having computer usable program code stored in a computer-readable storage medium ~~storing program code~~ for interactively viewing enterprise metadata, ~~causing a computer to perform the steps of~~ the computer program product comprising:

a first computer usable program code for providing a data structure that is stored in a memory in the form of a directed graph, with nodes of the directed graph representing asset metadata for enterprise data assets and directed edges of the directed graph between nodes representing relationships between the asset metadata, wherein a single directed edge from a first node of the directed graph to a second node of the directed graph indicates that the first node belongs to the second node, and wherein a pair of directed edges in both directions between the first node and the second node indicates a mapping between the first node and the second node;

a second computer usable program code for displaying, on a display, ~~generating~~ at least one path within the directed graph, the at least one path generated using a path finder tool, wherein the at least one path satisfies prescribed constraints defined in a query; and

a third computer usable program code for generating a report about the directed graph, wherein the report ~~is based on paths generated by said path finder,~~ is displayed on the display and consists of asset metadata that correspond to the nodes traversed in the at least one path generated by the path finder tool.

96. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is an impact analysis report describing an impact, on the asset metadata, of at least one prescribed modification to a portion of the asset metadata.

97. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

98. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is a data quality report describing steps to verify compliance of asset data with at least one prescribed business rule.

99. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond with prescribed asset metadata.

100. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing statistics about the asset metadata.

101. (New) The computer program product of claim 100 wherein the statistical summary report includes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on at least one descriptor.

102. (New) The computer program product of claim 101 wherein the statistical summary report includes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on owner.

103. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 further comprising:

a fourth computer usable program code for identifying redundancies among the enterprise data assets that correspond to nodes that are included within the at least one path.

104. (New) The computer program product of claim 103 wherein the report is a plan for eliminating redundancies among the enterprise data assets.

105. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with specific metadata for a specific enterprise data asset designated as a base for comparison.

106. (New) The computer program product of claim 105 further comprising:

a fifth computer usable program code for generating program code instructions corresponding to generating the report.

107. (New) The computer program product of claim 106 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as SQL script.

108. (New) The computer program product of claim 106 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as XSLT script.

109. (New) The computer program product of claim 106 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as Java code.

110. (New) The computer program product of claim 106 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

111. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 further comprising:

a sixth computer usable program code for generating a request to apply at least one modification to the at least one path.

112. (New) The computer program product of claim 111 further comprising enforcing at least one approval process for the request.

113. (New) The computer program product of claim 95 wherein the directed graph includes nodes for an ontology model, into which the asset metadata are mapped.

114. (New) The computer program product of claim 113 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing a percentage of enterprise data assets for which the asset metadata are mapped to the ontology model.

115. (New) The computer program product of claim 113 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with ontological metadata for the ontology model.

116. (New) A system, implemented in a data processing system, for interactively viewing enterprise metadata, the system comprising:

a first mechanism for providing a data structure in the form of a directed graph, with nodes of the directed graph representing asset metadata for enterprise data assets and directed edges of the directed graph between nodes representing relationships between the asset metadata, wherein a single directed edge from a first node of the directed graph to a second node of the directed graph indicates that the first node belongs to the second node, and wherein a pair of directed edges in both directions between the first node and the second node indicates a mapping between the first node and the second node

a second mechanism for displaying at least one path within the directed graph, the at least one path generated using a path finder tool, wherein the at least one path satisfies prescribed constraints defined in a query; and

a third mechanism for generating a report about the directed graph, wherein the report consists of asset metadata that correspond to the nodes traversed in the at least one path generated by the path finder tool.

117. (New) The system of claim 116 further comprising a web portal user interface, through which the second mechanism is accessed to generate the report.

118. (New) The system of claim 116 further comprising a viewer tool user interface, through which the second mechanism is accessed to generate the report.

119. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is an impact analysis report describing an impact, on the asset metadata, of at least one prescribed modification to a portion of the asset metadata.

120. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

121. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is a data quality report describing steps to verify compliance of asset data with at least one prescribed business rule.

122. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is a data discovery report displaying displayed asset metadata within the enterprise data assets, wherein the displayed asset metadata correspond with prescribed asset metadata.

123. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing statistics about the asset metadata.

124. (New) The system of claim 123 wherein the statistical summary report describes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on at least one descriptor.

125. (New) The system of claim 124 wherein the statistical summary report describes a distribution of enterprise data assets based on owner.

126. (New) The system of claim 116 further comprising a fourth mechanism for identifying redundancies among the enterprise data assets that correspond to nodes that are included within the at least one path.

127. (New) The system of claim 126 wherein the report is a plan for eliminating redundancies among the enterprise data assets.

128. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with specific metadata for a specific enterprise data asset designated as a base for comparison.

129. (New) The system of claim 116 further comprising a fifth mechanism for generating program code instructions corresponding to generating the report.

130. (New) The system of claim 129 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as SQL script.

131. (New) The system of claim 129 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as XSLT script.

132. (New) The system of claim 129 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as Java code.

133. (New) The system of claim 129 wherein the program code instructions are expressed as a transformation planning report describing steps to transform data from one asset to another asset.

134. (New) The system of claim 116 further comprising a sixth mechanism for generating a request to apply at least one modification to the at least one path.

135. (New) The system of claim 134 wherein said request-for-change generator enforces at least one approval process for the request.

136. (New) The system of claim 116 wherein the directed graph includes nodes for an ontology model into which the asset metadata are mapped.

137. (New) The system of claim 136 wherein the report is a statistical summary report describing a percentage of enterprise data assets for which the asset metadata are mapped to the ontology model.

138. (New) The system of claim 136 wherein the report is a comparison report comparing first metadata for at least one enterprise data asset with ontological metadata for the ontology model.

139. (New) The system of claim 138 wherein the comparison report indicates indicated metadata for the at least one enterprise data asset that corresponds with the ontological metadata for the ontology model, wherein the indicated metadata have a more specific context relative to the ontological metadata.